

Student Reveals Treasure Hunt Adventure

Corrante

Press-Herald

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Del Amo Center Store Robbed by Bandit Duo

Gunmen Greet Early Workers

Two gunmen who waited for early arrival of store employees, fled the J. C. Penney store in the Del Amo Center with cash stuffed into shopping bags after an armed robbery Saturday morning.

The two bandits fled in a Corvette as employees from the store followed. The bandits were lost at Hawthorne and Torrance.

Officers at the scene were told that entrance to the store was forced at gunpoint when three maintenance men arrived to work in the store about 6 a.m. Harry Kerner, 62, Larry Finch, 24, and Romeo Williams, 27, were met in the mall area of the shopping center and ordered to open the store and admit the gunmen.

Let's Get Out, Says Council

A resolution formally requesting withdrawal from the Southern California Rapid Transit District is expected to be adopted by Torrance councilmen when they meet Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

The council asked City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier, to submit the resolution after Mayor Albert Isen urged withdrawal from the district.

Isen made his comments last Tuesday evening. The resolution is a first step, City Manager Edward J. Furraro told the Press-Herald yesterday. The Rapid Transit District board must approve the withdrawal request before it can become effective.

MAYOR ISEN, in comments addressed to his colleagues and to other cities, said Torrance and surrounding communities would derive no benefits from the proposed "backbone routes" in the county. "We should not pay for it," Isen declared.

The Rapid Transit District board recently voted to ask for authority to collect a half per cent property tax and a \$5 motor vehicle tax each year in order to finance the backbone route.

The proposals have met with considerable opposition in the county, including members of the Board of Supervisors.

If Torrance councilmen adopt the resolution they will get Tuesday, copies will be sent to other Southwestern cities urging they also ask to withdraw from the district.

Fourth Graders Students Help Flood Victims

Fourth grade students at Hickory Elementary have turned a routine history lesson into a charity project to provide aid for flood victims.

The 9- and 10-year-old students began the project shortly after Christmas when their teachers, Mrs. Betty Stearns and Mrs. Bette Cornwell, informed the classes that the new social studies unit would deal with Northern California.

"That's where they're having the floods," excited students said. "I saw it on TV," another said, "and they got washed out of their homes. They need food and clothes."

THE STUDENTS convinced their teachers they wanted to be on the giving end after a merry Christmas, so the classes set to work organizing for a drive throughout the school.

A spokesman for the class appeared before the student council to appeal for help from all students. "We can take care of a lot of families if the whole school helps," council members were told.

A committee was organized to make daily pick ups in each classroom, and another committee set to work in the cafeteria sorting the donations. Arrangements were made to have the Salvation Army deliver the goods to the flood victims.

EVERYTHING from cans of soup to blankets and toys were donated by the students.

Parents began arriving at the school with cooking utensils and bedding. The drive continued for a week.

When the trucks arrived to load the items and begin the trip to Northern California, students counted more than 3,000 items. The haul included 2,118 items of clothing, 31 blankets, 70 pairs of shoes, 890 food items, and 68 miscellaneous items.

Jeff Hollman, Joya Manos, and Paula Mackey headed the drive, representing their fourth grade classes. Other committee members included Renny Sanford, Paul Burns, Stewart Seradey, Christine Gonzales, and Chere Virdeen.

APPOINTED . . . John W. Simpson has been named

crusade chairman of the Centinela Valley-South Bay District of the American Cancer Society. Director of the law department of Western Air Lines, Simpson lives with his wife and three children in Rolling Hills.

Edison, Madison, Magruder, Steel, Towers, Flavian, Victor Schools were completed.

Other visits which have been completed include: Antz, Jefferson, Sepulveda, and Arnold schools.

During the week of Feb. 8, the trailer will return to Torrance to check bicycles at Meadow Park, Seaside, Calle Mayor, Parkway, Riviera, Newton, Walteria, and Hillside. Feb. 17, 18, and 19, bicycles will be checked at Adams, Wood, Hickory, Torrance Elementary, Fernwood, and Madrona schools.

Bicycles are checked for wheel and frame alignment, braking, speedometer reading, and safety factors. Licenses are issued by the Torrance Police Department during the safety check.

Alfred B. Romero, chairman of the Torrance Council PTA safety committee, and Officer Alfred Jackson of the Torrance Police Department, in charge of licensing procedures, are co-ordinating the program. Others who are helping include John Hope Sr. and William Brooks, American Automobile Association, and Dr. Donald Duncan, Torrance schools curriculum consultant.

In addition to Lincoln School, safety trailer visits to Casimir, Arlington, Hamilton, Crenshaw, Carr, Yukon.

Bicycle Safety Checks Conducted at Schools

Bicycle safety checks at Torrance schools got underway last week when the Safety Lane Trailer operated by the Automobile Club of Southern California parked at Lincoln School.

The bicycle safety checks, which follow a classroom unit of study on safety, are conducted by the Automobile Club in cooperation with the Torrance Police Department and the PTA.

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Deputy Donald R. Sivard, 33, said the accident occurred when he slowed up to turn into the airport. His car was struck from the rear. Sivard was off-duty at the time.

Mrs. Sivard, 28, was hospitalized at Bay Harbor Hospital with a back injury and the youngster, David, 3½, suffered a skull fracture. Both were reported in good condition Friday.

Sivard was released from the hospital after treatment.

My Neighbors

"Oh, Oh I was late."

Walker told Lomita councilmen the city treasury had \$51,414.92 at the end of the year.

That does not include a \$100,000 loan negotiated before the city government machinery had begun to work.

The treasury was filled without the aid of a property tax, which councilmen have refused to levy. Prime source of funds, according to Walker, has been refunds from the state on gasoline and sales tax.

San Pedro Publisher Dies; Rites Scheduled on Monday

Funeral services for Bynner Martin, editor and publisher of the San Pedro News-Pilot and an active Harbor Area civic leader, will be held at 1:30 Monday at the First Presbyterian Church in San Pedro with the Rev. Mr. Andrew McCormack and the Rev. Gayle Barnett officiating.

Mr. Martin, affiliated with the News-Pilot for more than 30 years, died Thursday of a heart attack. He was 61.

A native of Kansas, he came to California as a boy and was graduated from Pomona College. He began his newspaper career as a sports writer for the old Los Angeles Record.

Mr. Martin is survived by his widow, Betty; a daughter, Mrs. Marilyn Elder, and a son, Bynner Don. One granddaughter survives him.

Burial will be in El Monte Cemetery. Halverson-Leavell Mortuary of San Pedro is in charge of all funeral arrangements.



NEW BEACON . . . A new sign identifying the Press-Herald office and plant was erected this week at 3238 W. Sepulveda in conjunction with the transfer of all operations of the newspaper into that facility. The new Press-Herald home, expanded in recent months to accommodate the fast-growing publication, may be phoned by calling 325-6069.

TWO-YEAR SECRET

South High Junior Tells Of Buried Treasure Hunt

A South High junior touched hands with history a couple of years ago, but the story remained a closely guarded secret until it became public knowledge this month.

Patrick Hrebec, 16, helped adventurer Kip Wagner uncover buried treasure for several days in the summer of 1962, but he didn't tell the story until publication of the discovery in a national magazine this month.

Patrick and an older brother helped Wagner dredge for coins from sunken Spanish vessels off the east coast of Florida and the tale is told in the January issue of National Geographic Magazine.



PATRICK HREBEC Seeks Buried Treasurer

THE TREASURE hunt took place in a small inlet near Cape Kennedy, and because

of the remote location, public knowledge of the work was not widespread. The Hrebec family was living at Patrick Air Force Base and Patrick became involved in the work when his older brother, a skin diver, was hired by Wagner.

Patrick said he and his brother encountered sharks during the dredging operations, but remained unafraid because "the noise of the dredge scared them away."

What did the treasure hunters find? "Some of them found silverware and rings, and some found unbroken pottery embedded in clay," Patrick explains. The pottery proved to be a 250-year-old Chinese porcelain from the Kang-hsi dynasty. Other items included silver bullion, gold ingots, copper pots, sounding weights, and gourds and earthenware filled with olives, wine, oil, water, and other provisions.

HE JOINED the News-Pilot's staff in 1929 as a suburban editor and sports writer. He was named publisher in 1948 after holding most other positions with the publication.

McVicar said the effect in Torrance would be slight, but he asked residents to "take it easy on water" for the 48-hour period.

Water Pressure To Be Reduced For 48 Hours

The entire distribution system of the Metropolitan Water District west of Lake Mathews will be out of service or on reduced pressure for a 48-hour period beginning at midnight Tuesday, Feb. 1.

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We Have Moved

The Press-Herald has moved! All operations of the Press-Herald have been consolidated in an expanded plant located at 3238 W. Sepulveda Blvd. The downtown plant has been closed.

Some mechanical and printing operations have been carried on at the Sepulveda Boulevard facility for several months and the completion of new facilities has enabled the Press-Herald to bring all departments together again for more efficient operation.

With the move, some new telephone numbers become effective:

Office and general news . . . 725-6060
Classified advertising . . . 325-6060
Circulation . . . 325-1515
Women's news . . . 325-6380